

ABSTRACT

A multi-station audio distribution apparatus having at least two listening stations, a data control mechanism and a listening station interface mechanism disposed between the listening stations and the data control mechanism. Each of the listening stations has a user input in the form of a bar code scanner to enter an audio material selection and each has an audio output. The data control mechanism retrieves digitized audio material corresponding to each of the user's audio material selections. The listening station interface mechanism transfers the user's input from each of the listening stations to the data control mechanism, receives the digitized audio materials corresponding to each user's input from the data control mechanism, converts the digital audio materials to analog audio signals and transfers the analog audio signals to each of the respective listening stations for the audio output. An apparatus for recording a custom compact disc at a retail premises, comprising a music memory containing a plurality of digitally-stored music selections; a plurality of preview stations distributed throughout the retail premises; a plurality of compact disc cutters; and a main computer connected to the memory, to the preview stations, and to the compact disc cutters.

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